NOVEL ANTI-HIV PROTEINS FROM CORAL REEFS

SUMMARY

Scientists at the National Cancer Institute's Molecular Targets Laboratory have discovered that Cnidarins as a novel class of highly potent proteins capable of blocking the HIV virus from penetrating T-cells. The National Cancer Institute seeks parties interested in collaborative research to license or co-develop large-scale recombinant production of cnidarins.

REFERENCE NUMBER

E-295-2012

PRODUCT TYPE

- Therapeutics

KEYWORDS

- cnidarin
- anti-viral
- HIV

COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITY

This invention is available for licensing and co-development.

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DESCRIPTION OF TECHNOLOGY

Scientists at the National Cancer Institute's Molecular Targets Laboratory have discovered that Cnidarins as a novel class of highly potent proteins capable of blocking the HIV virus from penetrating T-cells. Cnidarins were found in a soft coral collected in waters off Australia's northern coast. Cnidarins can block virus fusion/entry but do not block viral attachment. In addition, Cnidarins do not have lectin-like activity and therefore possibly a unique mechanism of action. Thus, Cnidarins may represent important new leads for HIV microbicides or for systemic therapeutics for HIV.

POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL APPLICATIONS

Microbicide, Therapeutic, Research tool

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

- High potency against HIV
- Novel Chemical composition
- Family of related proteins
- Unique mechanism of action

INVENTOR(S)

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DEVELOPMENT STAGE

- Pre-clinical (in vivo)

PATENT STATUS

- **U.S. Filed:** PCT US1510797

THERAPEUTIC AREA

- Infectious Diseases